

ATV Safety Education Programs

The Children's Safety Network Rural Injury Prevention Resource Center does not endorse or recommend particular safety programs. Given the limitation of existing evaluation of youth ATV safety education, it would be premature to draw conclusions regarding the value of programs. These programs should be monitored through evaluation to document their impact on knowledge, attitudes, practices, and injury experience of program participants.

Listed below are contacts for a variety of programs you can reach for further information about setting up local ATV activities. Additional training resources in your state or community can be identified by contacting the All-Terrain Vehicle Safety Institute (ASI) of the Specialty Vehicle Institute of America (SVIA) at 714-727-4216. If you know of community-based ATV safety programs, please contact the Children's Safety Network Rural Injury Prevention Resource Center (800-662-6900.)

Selected* Program Descriptions

Club Name/Address	Description
Becky Cropper 4-H Youth and Community Development Agent Brown County The Ohio State University 740 Mount Orab Pike Georgetown, OH 45121 513-378-6646	The Brown County Cooperative Extension ATV Safety Program has developed their own ATV safety program utilizing the national 4-H curriculum as a model. The ATV safety participants enroll as 4-H members in a local club for a minimum of 9 months. Currently, there are three different ATV clubs active in the county.
	A unique aspect of this program is that youth between the ages of 14 and 19 provide the training as ATV safety trainers. All youth trainers have completed the All-Terrain Vehicle Safety Institute training course and received additional training in public speaking, communication, and working with groups. The youth work closely with the head advisor in maintaining the highest level of safety.
	The youth have the opportunity to demonstrate their skills and safety knowledge during the ATV rodeo at the county fair. Youth are questioned and judged on the identification of ATV parts; interviewed about safety issues; and demonstrate safe riding techniques as part of rodeo events. The club also utilizes a pre- and post-test to measure safety knowledge gained during the youth's participation in the club.
	The youth safety message of the ATV clubs remain in the forefront of the community through local media. Television coverage of club activities are provided from nearby Dayton, Ohio, station. The club has also made available ATV safety videos for loan from the local library.
Paul Lawrence ATV Program Manager/ 4-H Volunteer 2714 Wyandotte San Diego, CA 92117-1655 619-272-2575	The California 4-H ATV program serves the youth and families of the 10 most southern counties in the state of California. California requires all youth, under 18 years of age, operating an ATV on public lands to be certified through the California Division of Motor Vehicles. The instructors are certified and licensed through the All-Terrain Vehicle Safety Institute and the California Division of Motor Vehicles.
	The state curriculum is used which consists of a workbook, video, and classroom discussion. The cost for participation is \$25 to cover all materials, an insurance policy, and reimbursement of expenses to the instructors in addition to the curriculum. Modules on the use of ATVs on farms and carrying a weapon safely on an ATV are offered. Participants also have the opportunity to meet different off-road vehicle dealers and discuss safety issues.

Club Name/Address

FAX 918-253-8324

Blaine Yirsa
Agricultural Extension Agent
Delaware County
Box 1020
Jay, OK 74346

918-253-4332

Description

The Delaware County Cooperative Extension ATV safety programs have recently been formed to address ATV safety with youth. Delaware County is a rural community with numerous beef cattle ranches. The local ATV club started when a small group of people became aware of ATV-related injuries to youth in their community. In Delaware County, most youth have access to an ATV for their use. The state of Oklahoma has no laws which specifically address ATV use; therefore, training is critical.

The Delaware County Cooperative Extension has developed their own training program based on the All-Terrain Vehicle Safety Institute program. Club activities include trail rides for adults and youth, trail mapping, and community service projects. The annual state 4-H Roundup offers youth a variety of ATV safety events. Activities of the club are designed to increase safety awareness and enhance the image of ATVs in the county.

Roy Vaughan
Agriculture and Natural
Resource Coordinator
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505-646-3026
FAX 505-646-3027

The New Mexico Cooperative Extension offers state-wide technical assistance to local 4-H groups and extension offices interested in setting up an ATV club in their local community. The National 4-H ATV Safety Program curriculum is made available.

The Cooperative Extension office sponsors a state-wide campaign for youth to increase helmet usage on ATVs. The campaign is called "No Helmet - No Brains" and consists of 30 bulletin boards across the state. Bulletin boards were donated at cost by a regional sign company. The campaign also has posters and brochures available. The campaign has generated additional media interest and positive feedback.

A mobile display is available through the state office for community and youth events. The display includes a mannequin dressed in protective gear, an ATV, and information about ATV safety for youth.

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Community Police Officer
Egg Harbor Township Police
Department
Ready-to-Ride
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Egg Harbor Township, NJ
08234

a 609-926-4040 FAX 609-926-4004

The Egg Harbor Township Police Department addresses the improper use of ATVs with innovative efforts to prevent injury and provide positive alternatives for youth. Egg Harbor Township is a 68 mile square community with a mix of suburbia and farms. The township is a bedroom community for the gaming industry in Atlantic City. In response to increasing community concern of off-road vehicle violations, the Police Athletic League (PAL) got involved with off-road vehicle safety training for youth.

As part of the program, a 38-acre riding area for ATVs and other off-road vehicles was opened. The facility needed clean-up, fix-up, and set-up, which was done by the 75 member club. The club also offers ATV safety training, recreational rides, and service as part of their on-going outreach at the facility.

The Egg Harbor Township Police Department utilizes the riding program for the juvenile diversion program. The diversion program gives an alternative to adjudication for first time offenders under the age of 18 charged with an ATV safety violation. Training for youth is provided in ATV and off-road vehicle safety by police officers who are certified instructors. Youth who choose the diversion program, and complete the safety training, have the charges dismissed by the judge.

The Egg Harbor Township PAL has been fortunate to have good relationships with the manufacturers and the media who have lent their support. The next challenge for the program is increasing parent involvement, developing an evaluation component, and maintaining the riding area.

*This list is not intended to be inclusive.

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